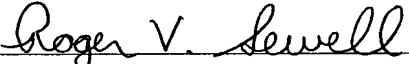


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Int. Application No.:</b> <b>PCT/JP2004/001787</b>	<b><u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"</u></b>
<b>Applicant:</b> <b>AOKI et al.</b>	"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number <b>EV 769060060</b>
<b>Filed:</b> <b>Herewith</b>	Date of Deposit: <b>August 18, 2006</b>
<b>Title:</b> <b>PLATE MATERIAL VERTICAL PROCESSING LINE</b>	I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Mail Stop <b>PCT</b> , Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified U.S. national phase application of International Patent Application No. PCT/JP2004/001787, filed February 18, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.